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TO: Chief, Bonn Operations Unit
INFO: Chief, European Division; Chief, China
Operations; Chief of Station, []
FROM: Chief of Base, []
SUBJECT: [] TFAST
Recent Election in Deutsch China-Gesellschaft (DCG)

ACTION REQUIRED: REFERENCES

Reference: [] 20322

Action Required: Traces, see para. 5

1. On 13 November 1971 the DCG held its biannual elections for a new executive committee (Vorstand) and advisory committee (Beirat). CASUSTAIN-5 (Subject) was elected auditor and member of the advisory committee. Forwarded under separate cover is a list of participants and the identities of the new officers.

2. The new chairman of the DCG is:

Hermann SCHWANN
DPOB: 2 Jan 99, Niederhochstadt/Taunus, Germany
Resides: Bergisch-Gladbach, Rommerscheidstr. 105
Former FDP Bundestag deputy (1958-ca. 64 - See 1964
ed. Who's Who in Germany)
See also EGGA-3253, 2 March 65, previous correspondence
on SCHWANN.

SCHWANN revealed to Subject in a private conversation that certain unnamed CDU Bundestag deputies suggested he attempt to obtain the chairmanship of the DCG. This CDU faction is allegedly interested in rejuvenating the DCG under SCHWANN's leadership. Although

Attachment:

As stated above, u/s/c

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SCHWANN is a former FDP member, he has long since broken with the party and believes it is a propitious time to use the question of China policy as ammunition against his former FDP colleagues. Subject commented on SCHWANN's election as follows: "The DCG will probably receive a new impetus with SCHWANN at its head. The latter has many advantages over his predecessors: vitality, contacts with industry, parliamentary experience, access to all parties in Bonn, an open door to and respect from both the Soviets and Chinese, financial and political independence, ...etc."

3. For the past several years the DCG has been an ineffective and moribund organization. Recent arrangements for a DCG-sponsored tour of mainland China (reported in Reference) have, however, resulted in approximately 300 new applications for membership. According to F. von Knobloch of the Osttourist travel agency in Cologne further tours, also limited to DCG members, will follow the first trip scheduled to begin on 28 December 1971.

4. We have not yet obtained a list of participants for the December China trip. We note that Harry HAMM, a correspondent for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and now a member of the advisory committee of the DCG, traveled to China in May 1964 (Base card refs FROB 7775, 28 May 64). Although not certain, we seem to recall that HAMM is a contact of Samuel A. THESSEN. HAMM is a relatively recent member of the DCG.

5. We request advice traces on Herman SCHWANN.

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